

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-20 remain in the application. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 10-20 have been allowed.

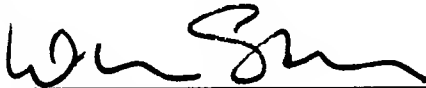
Claim 1 has been amended to even more clearly recite that the binding element is formed immediately before being inserted into perforations in order to eliminate pre-formed binding elements supplies. In other words, there is no supply of wire binding elements, but only supply of wire which is formed into a wire binding element according to different brochure formats and thicknesses right before it is inserted into the perforation.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-9 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out. Any suggestion of the claim language from the Examiner is appreciated.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to 37 CFR Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicants

YC

WERNER H. STEMER
REG. NO. 34,956

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Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.
Post Office Box 2480
Hollywood, FL 33022-2480
Tel: (954) 925-1100
Fax: (954) 925-1101